

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/726,821

Examiner

Marissa J. Detschel

Applicant(s)

FUKUI, KENJI

Art Unit

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed March 8, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 3, and 8-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 04102006.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Scott Harris (RN 32,030) on **.

The application has been amended as follows:

- As to claim 13, line 1, the phrase "claimed in 10," has been replaced with --claimed in Claim 10,--

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 3, 8, and 10-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 2, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a point diffraction interferometer utilizing a transparent substrate with a disk-shaped opaque zone, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 2.

As to claim 8, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious the use of a wedge-type prism as a beam-splitting means in a point diffraction interferometer, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 8.

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As to claim 9, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a point diffraction interferometer that measures two split beams with an intensity ratio of the second split beam to the first split beam to be set within a range of 1.1 to 5.0, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 9.

As to claim 10, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious an interferometer that utilizes a mirror with a reflective surface perpendicular to first and second split beams reflected by a beamsplitter, said mirror having a transparent zone with a micromirror at the center of the transparent zone, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 10.

As to claim 19, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious an interferometer that utilizes a mirror with a reflective surface perpendicular to first and second split beams transmitted by a beamsplitter, said mirror having a transparent zone with a micromirror at the center of the transparent zone, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 19.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed on March 8, 2006, has been fully acknowledged by the Examiner. In view of said amendment, the amendments to the claims, Figure 13, and the title of the application have been accepted by the Examiner.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa J. Detschel whose telephone number is 571-272-2716. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-2059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marissa J Detschel
April 11, 2006


Hoa Q. Pham
Primary Examiner